Dana Molloy – UDL Reflection

After taking a learning styles survey, I finally figured out what kind of learner I am. I was deemed visual/verbal which I can definitely see. I never really paid too much attention to my actual learning process, I kind of just, well—learned! After reading through the description of what a visual/verbal learner was, I definitely saw many aspects that pertained to me and how I learn and study. I will definitely keep this in mind as I go forward as a student, and a future educator to learn and teach most effectively. I think the CAST website is a very valuable tool as a future educator. Not only did I learn a lot about UDL but I also found many things that would benefit my classroom. As a science teacher, I’ve noticed that it’s a little harder to teach with electronic media because it limits certain things that only a teacher can give to a student. After going though the website and their links to what they had to offer, I found many valuable resources that I will definitely use in my classroom. I think the best part about the services is not only do they reach out to all types of learners but they also offer materials for students who need special attention and materials to learn most efficiently.

This was the first time I’ve ever used Prezi and I absolutely love it. Not only does it provide a visual map of the lesson at hand but I think it’s a very useful presenting tool especially with all the features it has and how you can add basically anything to it and have it be part of a lesson. I don’t think I would use it for every class but I think it could definitely be beneficial in my classroom. I also learned many things from the online text. It was set up in a way so that everyone could access it and learn from it. There were links that furthered knowledge and ideas about the topics being presented and my topic in particular opened my eyes to how UDL will become integrated into the schools. I also found resources that I think would be very helpful in a science classroom. It’s amazing how many resources are actually out there and available for teachers to use. I think that many of the methods and materials that are presented by CAST will be a valuable asset to any classroom. I can only see it changing a bland boring lecture based class into a warm, fun, entertaining way to convey information effectively to EVERY student! And besides, when you’re having fun, you don’t realize you’re learning. Our job as future educators is to try our very best to reach every student individually and if we have these tools at our disposal, it would be a crime not to use them.